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proposes the use of well information from a neighboring area to calibrate seismic velocity estimates to predict a pore pressure profile. The models proposed by Wilhelm et al. are aimed at improving pre-drill prediction accuracy of fluid pore pressure. All of Wilhelm et al's examples show that "seismic velocity data can help anticipate pressure regimes in deep water turbidite environments before drilling." (Page 6, Paragraph 5). Expressly missing from Williams is any appreciation for, or discussion of, the claimed features of the present invention.

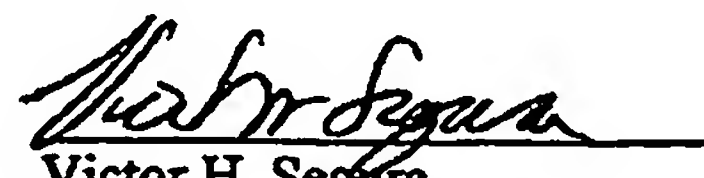
Even if Eaton or Wilhelm et al. had taught or suggested the claimed invention, they are not properly combinable under 35 USC 103. There is no teaching or suggestion in either of the references to combine the elements to do that which is claimed. The absence of such a suggestion to combine the references is dispositive in an obviousness determination. *Gambro Lundia AB v. Baxter Healthcare Corp.*, 110 F.3d 1573, 1579 (Fed. Cir. 1997).

Claims 16-17 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as obvious over Eaton in view US 6,131,694 (Robbins et al.). Applicants traverse the rejections. As discussed above, Eaton does not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed invention. Alone or combined with Eaton, Robbins et al. also fails to teach or suggest all the claim limitations. And there is no teaching or suggestion in either of the references to combine the elements to do that which is claimed.

Applicants submit that claims 1-25 are in condition for allowance and passage to issuance is respectfully requested. Applicants also request an initialed copy of the Electronic Information Disclosure Statement submitted on May 2, 2005 (copy attached) for the present application. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would be advantageous in advancing the issuance of this application, a call to the undersigned at (281) 285-4562 is encouraged.

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Respectfully submitted,


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